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KOSCIUSKO AND SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY
P.O. BOX 787 WATER VALLEY MS. 38965

October 4, 2011

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Ms. Cynthia T. Brown
Chief - Section of Administration of Proceedings
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street S.W.
Washington DC 20423-0001

Re: STB Docket AB-1087AX - Grenada Railway LLC abandonment between MP 622.5 and MP 703.8 in Grenada, Montgomery, Carroll, Holmes, Yazoo and Madison Counties in the State of Mississippi.

Dear Ms. Brown,

Kosciusko and Southwestern Railway (KSRY), a d/b/a of Mississippi Rail Group Inc. was formed in 1998. The company operates approximately 21 miles of the former Illinois Central Aberdeen Branch, by lease from the Mississippi Transportation Commission, through the Mississippi Department of Transportation. This line was previously selected for abandonment in the 1990's, and was preserved in an effort to maintain transportation options for present and future firms in the area.

KSRY has provided both carload freight service, and more recently, storage of surplus railcars. Working with Kosciusko Attala Development Corporation, we have identified several local customers desirous of rail service, including a steel fabrication plant and two metal recyclers. Additionally, we were approached regarding movement of some large transformer for a power plant.

Since Grenada Railway assumed operations KSRY has approached two of their managers with the suggestion of joint marketing efforts. There was no response from either, although those individuals are no longer with their company as far as we can tell. Neither KSRY itself, the Kosciusko Attala Development Corp, nor any of our local industries have ever been contacted by Grenada Railway to determine what rail traffic may be available. When an attempt was made to ship out some rail cars from storage, Grenada quoted charges roughly 10 times those charged by a sample of other shortlines for a similar move. It is our opinion that a sincere, bona fide attempt to maintain and grow the traffic base has not been made by Grenada Railway.

We feel the lack of rail traffic on which the abandonment is predicated does not reflect a true picture of the potential the area presents. Since abandoned lines are seldom, if ever, rebuilt, loss of the line in question would have a permanent adverse impact on the economic future of the region, and would certainly precipitate the abandonment of KSRY as well. We therefore oppose the requested abandonment, and respectfully request that the Board take such steps as it may see fit to protect the long-term interests of the region and the State.

Sincerely



Don R. Brown
President (Retired)

KOSCIUSKO AND SOUTHWESTERN RAILWAY
P.O. BOX 787 WATER VALLEY MS. 38965

CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

October 09, 2011

**RE: Grenada Railway LLC – Abandonment of rail line in Mississippi – STB Docket
AB-1087X**

**On behalf of Mississippi Rail Group Inc, I have served all parties by U.S. Mail on this
date.**



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